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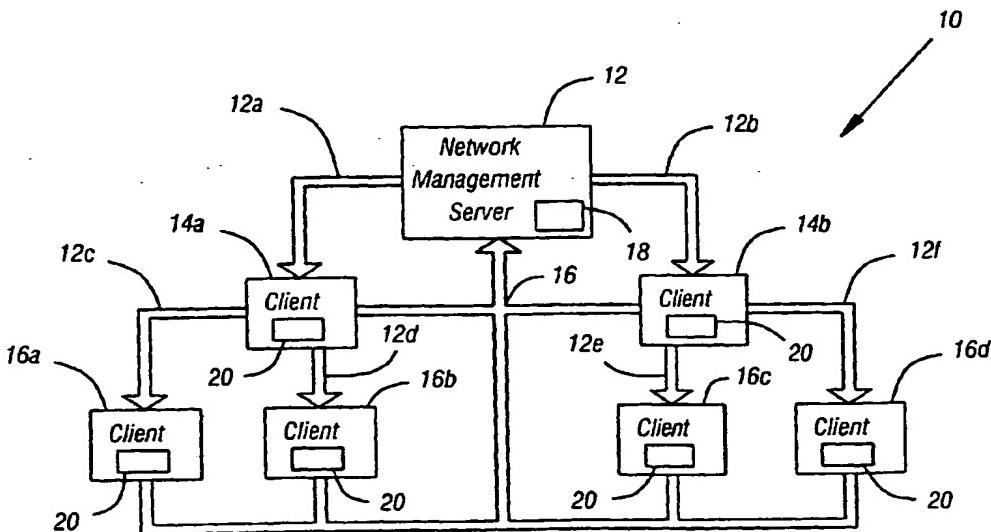
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(54) Title: PEER TO PEER SOFTWARE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

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(57) Abstract: Software packages may be distributed to a plurality of clients in a network by initially distributing the software from a server to one or more clients. Those clients may then be enabled to forward the software package on to other clients contained in a list of addressee clients. Each client that receives the software package may then be called upon, in turn, to forward the software package to additional clients on the list. In this way, the load on the network management server, related to the distribution of software to a large number of clients in a network, may be reduced.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H04L G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 850 396 A (GILBERT TIMOTHY G) 15 December 1998 (1998-12-15) column 3, line 58 -column 4, line 14 column 7, line 14-32	1,6,11, 16,21,25
X	EP 0 726 663 A (HITACHI LTD) 14 August 1996 (1996-08-14) abstract	1,6,11, 16,21,25
A	EP 0 811 942 A (CYBER MEDIA INC) 10 December 1997 (1997-12-10) abstract	1,11,21

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Information on patent family members

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